DEWAN: You admit that the first section of the road is in good order. In the case of the second section, portions have been metalled; and the Chief Engineer says that the work will be attended to, as funds have been allotted. In regard to the third and fourth sections, I think that the matter requires fuller investigation. Apparently, the road has been metalled only in small portions: and I would require a comprehensive estimate so as to get an idea as to what it is going to cost and what interest it is going to serve. After I get full information in regard to this matter, I shall pass such orders as are considered proper.

---

5. Roads and Bridges.

MR. A. J. WRIGHT (*Member, Kannan Devan Planters' Association*) began by acknowledging that the Government were fully aware of the enormous amount of the damage to communications done by the disastrous floods in July last and of the vital importance of unimpeded transport facilities to a planting district, particularly one so isolated as the High Range to which everything in the way of food-stuffs and estate supplies must be brought from outside.

His Association appreciated very fully the measures taken by the Government to restore communications and the work of a more permanent nature in progress now, but represented the urgency of making permanent the improvements, necessarily only temporary, carried out after the monsoon. Bridges, especially those erected since July last over breaches caused by the floods, called for very early attention, as otherwise there would be very grave risk of interrupted communications during the approaching monsoon. He sought an assurance from the Government that the seriousness of the position was realised and that every possible effort would be made to avoid delay.

After the submission of the detailed memorandum of subjects, work had made considerable progress, notably upon the bridges at Periavurai and at the 3rd mile, but much remained to be accomplished in the short period still available. He, therefore, urged the extreme importance of such restoration work.

DEWAN: The Chief Engineer tells me that the Periavurai bridge and the bridge at the 3rd mile of the road have been taken up and that both the works are in progress. An estimate for Rs. 12,000 was sanctioned on the 28th January, 1925, for reconstructing the Periavurai bridge and forming a diversion road. In regard to the bridge or revetment below the Kaniamallai factory, the Subdivision Officer has submitted the necessary estimates and is awaiting orders from the Chief Engineer to start the work. As for bridges between the 9th and the 22nd miles, they will be taken up one by one, after the estimate is sanctioned in each case.

As regards the three revetments on the first mile, the Subdivision Officer has reported that they have already been completed. Of the revetments between the 9th and the 22nd miles, the Subdivision Officer says that most of the important works have already been taken up. The Chief Engineer says that, where the estimates have not been sanctioned, they will be sanctioned without delay and the works will be taken up before the monsoon. The Government are alive to the importance of the works and agree that money should be sanctioned and the works executed as soon as possible.

---

6. The Western Outlet Road.

MR. A. J. WRIGHT (*Member, Kannan Devan Planters' Association*) merely wished to ascertain the policy of the Government with regard to the restoration of the wrecked portions of the Western Outlet Road and with regard to the road generally.

DEWAN: I believe that a particular portion of this road, about 15 miles in length, *i. e.*, from the 42nd to the 56th mile, has been practically destroyed by the floods and the portion lower down is being put in order. That work will soon be completed. The question of improving the road beyond the 42nd mile is not quite so

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly